

High Holidays 5754

Important Changes from Last Year

Please mark your calendar! This year all morning services will begin at 9:30 am. Moving services up a little bit will allow *Tashlich* to start a little earlier and morning services to end earlier.

All services will be held at the Unitarian Center, 1187 Franklin St., San Francisco. Because of a scheduling conflict, we will not have use of the main sanctuary on Yom Kippur afternoon from 3 pm to 5 pm. After *Mincha* on Yom Kippur afternoon, there will be a *Seder Hazkarat Ha-Shemot* (the Order of the Remembrance of the Names), in which the names of all our departed relatives, friends, and loved ones will be read. Both *Mincha* and this remembrance service will be held in one of the larger overflow rooms at the Unitarian Center.

We will then reconvene in the main sanctuary for *Yizkor* and *Neilah*. During the *Yizkor* service, we will continue the custom of reading the names of members of the congregation who have died, and those friends and family who have died in the past year.

Tickets/Special Needs

High Holiday tickets for evening services (*erev* Rosh Hashanah and *Kol Nidre*) will be mailed to all CSZ members in good standing who requested them by the end of August. Main sanctuary doors will open at 6:30 pm. If you need particular seats (because of sight or hearing impairment, or children who might need to take a break in the lobby), please arrange for these in advance by calling the office (861-6932). If you will need wheelchair access (including special parking), please advise the office immediately so that we can be prepared to accommodate you.

Onegs and Break Fast

Join us for an *oneg* after Rosh Hashanah *Ma'ariv* (evening) services at the Unitarian Center. In place of an *oneg* after Rosh Hashanah *Musaf* services, join us for our Seudat Mitzvah picnic prior to *Tashlich*, which will be held at Fort Point.

Services at CSZ on the second day of

Rosh Hashanah will be followed by an *oneg*. There will be a large "break fast" *oneg* at the Unitarian Center after *Neilah*, the closing service of Yom Kippur.

AIDS Food Drive

One of the reasons we fast on Yom Kippur is to remind ourselves of the hunger of those in need. As we have done for the last five years, CSZ will collect non-perishable food for the AIDS Food Bank at our *Kol Nidre* service. Please bring a bag of food items as part of your Yom Kippur observance. We will accept food donations until 1 pm on Yom Kippur day.

High Holidays Service Schedule

All services will be held in the Unitarian Center (1187 Franklin at Geary) unless otherwise noted.

Selichot

Saturday, September 11, 9 pm at CSZ

Rosh Hashanah

Evening: Wednesday, September 15, 7:30 pm

First Day: Thursday, September 16, Shacharit, Musaf and Children's Service, 9:30 am

Tashlich: Thursday, September 16, 2:15 pm at Fort Point

Second day: Friday, September 17, 9:30 am at CSZ

Shabbat Shuvah

Evening: Friday, September 17, 8:15 pm at CSZ

Yom Kippur

Kol Nidre: Friday, September 24, 7:30 pm

Morning: Saturday, September 25, 9:30 am

Mincha: Saturday, September 25, 3 pm

Seder Hazkarat Ha-Shemot: Saturday, September 25, The Order of the Remembrance of the Names, 4:15 pm

Yizkor: Saturday, September 25, 5:15 pm

Ne'ilah: Saturday, September 25, 6:00 pm

Sukkot

Services for Sukkot will be held at member families' homes. On Saturday, October 2, we will be holding shabbat morning services at the *sukkah* of Rabbi Yoel Kahn and Dan Bellm (61 Ford St., San Francisco). Services begin at 10:30 am.

On Sunday, October 3, at 6 pm, we will gather at the home of Allan Gold and Gary Glasser (424 Central Avenue, San Francisco) for a service, celebration, and potluck. Please call Allan Gold at 929-9524 if you can help build and decorate the *sukkah* that day at 11 am.

Simchat Torah

On Simchat Torah we celebrate the completion of the yearly cycle of reading the Torah and then immediately begin the new cycle for the new year. Join us on Wednesday, October 6 at 7:30 pm for evening services at CSZ.

This Simchat Torah will be an especially joyous one for our congregation. We have been fortunate in recently purchasing a new Torah. On Simchat Torah, we will officially welcome the Torah to our congregation.

Child Care

Child care will be available for all evening and daytime High Holiday services at the Unitarian Center. We must have advance reservations to guarantee a space, avoid overcrowding, and provide separately for children of different ages.

Please call child care coordinator Rena Frantz (334-2134) to make your reservations. Donations to help defray the cost of child care are requested: \$10 per child per service or \$30 per child for unlimited child care throughout the High Holidays. Payment can be made in advance through the synagogue office or in person when you drop off your child before services. No one will be turned away for inability to contribute. The deadline for child care reservations is September 1.

Begin Your Year with a Mitzvah!

There are many ways that you can help with our High Holidays. Call our coordinators: Carolyn Pines (510/532-9661) or Larry Wexler (510/523-6775).

High Holiday Liturgy: Renewing the Old, Sanctifying the New

At our High Holiday Children's Service, we sing "Happy Birthday" to the world. Although no one has yet proposed that the ensemble sing this particular piece on Rosh Hashanah eve to the sanctuary, creation's birth and renewal is at the center of the many layered meanings of the High Holidays. To employ a cross-cultural-mixed-metaphor, in the "dream time" of our ancestors of the ancient Near East, God made the world on the first Rosh Hashanah and continually sustains it by literally breathing it into existence. Rosh Hashanah commemorates and reenacts the creation and renewal of God's covenant with what has been created. Echoes of this ancient imagery can be found throughout the liturgy of our High Holiday services.



Rabbi Yoel Kahn

My personal experience of the holidays on a communal and spiritual plane is parallel to the metaphor of anniversary and renewal which is at the core of the liturgy. I come to High Holidays to return; I love to revisit familiar melodies, recite ancient words and participate in rites thousands of years old. The continuity of creation, community and peoplehood, spoken of so often in the texts of our liturgy, is lived out for me in the experience of the celebration itself. But Rosh Hashanah is also about newness and renewal; in our personal lives, Rosh Hashanah invites us to change our habits and customs in the pursuit of true fulfillment and holiness. As our people has changed over the generations, so has our worship. As we grow and evolve as a congregation, so too must our worship, so that it may honestly reflect who we are and speak to us as we are.

We will be making several changes in our High Holiday liturgy this year. The most important innovations are described below:

Remembrance and Yizkor

As our membership has grown, so has the size of our Yom Kippur Yizkor list. Many members have repeatedly stated that the reading of the list has lost its meaning and now detracts from the spir-

ituality of the Yizkor service. Others feel equally strongly that the reading of the names is a treasured custom and the essence of the service. After years of discussion, the Va'ad has decided that, for this year, the entire list will not be read out loud at the Yizkor service; instead, only the names of deceased CSZ members and recent losses will be read out loud. Further, the names of all our loved ones will be read at a special service preceding Yizkor. The "Order of the Remembrance of the Names" will begin at 4:15 in the Starr King Room; Yizkor will begin at 5:15 in the sanctuary.

Earlier Services

The morning services on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur will begin at 9:30 am. This change will allow the programs and activities which follow the morning services to be more easily scheduled and attended.

Torah Reading

The traditional Torah reading for the first day of Rosh Hashanah is Genesis 21, which includes the story of Hagar and Ishmael. When Reform Judaism moved to a single day of Rosh Hashanah, what was the traditional reading for the second day, Genesis 22, the Akedah [the binding of Isaac], became the reading for the first day. Later, Genesis 1, the story of creation, became a recommended reading for Reform synagogues. This year, we will return to the traditional practice, and read Genesis 21 on the first day and Genesis 22 on the second day. From now on, we will rotate these three Torah portions, reading two each year on a triennial cycle.

Shofar Service

Originally, the Shofar was only sounded at the Shacharit [morning] service. During the Talmudic era, it was added to the Musaf [additional morning] service, primarily in case anyone missed it at Shacharit. Over time, this became the primary Shofar service while the Shacharit service retained only a reminder of the original service. The editors of the CSZ machzor added a brief Shofar service to the evening service to ensure that everyone would have an opportunity to fulfill the mitzvah of hearing the Shofar. Instead of having three separate Shofar services at the three Rosh Hashanah services, we have decided that the inten-

tions and customs of our tradition can be best fulfilled by expanding the Rosh Hashanah evening Shofar service and combining the two morning Shofar services into a single unit, which will be included in the Musaf liturgy.

High Holiday Supplement

In the best tradition of Sha'ar Zahav, there will again be a High Holiday hand-out. This supplement will include some of the changes mentioned above as well as other special readings and meditations to enhance our worship.

May you and your family and loved ones be inscribed for a year of peace and blessing. Amen. *Le-shanah Tovah!*

How To Reach The Officers

The president and vice-presidents are available to talk with you about your ideas or concerns. We look forward to talking with you, but would appreciate doing so at a time that works for our home and work schedules. Here is how to reach each of us:

Tiela Chalmers, president: (415) 431-4312 (please call between 9 am and 9:30 pm).

David Stein, administrative vice-president: (415) 863-4769 (please call between 2:30 pm and 9:30 pm).

Susan Unger, program vice-president: (415) 954-4286 (voice mail—call anytime) or (415) 863-3717 (for urgent calls between 5 am and 7 am, or between 6 pm and 8 pm).

In an emergency, the recording on the synagogue office machine (861-6932) will direct you to a service that will know how to find one of us.

Our Va'ad (board) meets upstairs in the library on the second Monday of every month, from 6:30 to about 9:30 pm. Everyone is welcome to attend. If you have a proposal or a report that you would like to present to the Va'ad, you need to contact Tiela two and a half weeks before the Va'ad meeting in order to get on the agenda.

President's Column

The following is taken from Tiela Chalmers' remarks at the installation service July 9.

As I contemplate moving into the role of president, I reflect with considerable awe on the accomplishments of my predecessors. With the help of many other synagogue leaders, they brought us from being a small informal group, meeting for services in rented facilities, with no Rabbi or staff, to being a 500-member congregation with a building, a Rabbi, administrator and secretary, a religious school with three teachers and a principal, and a cemetery. They did a tremendous job.

Our presidents, particularly in the early years, had to struggle hard, first to formulate and then to implement a shared vision. Thanks to their hard work, as well as that of other synagogue leaders, we have that shared vision, and you see it in its concrete form around you tonight. The task that has fallen to us more recently is to fill in the gaps, and to improve the infrastructure that supports that vision.

Our leaders now are called on, not so much to be vision makers, but to serve more as facilitators. If you think of what we do as making music, earlier leaders had to grapple with whether to have an orchestra or a marching band. What music to play, and finding, training and motivating the players. More recently, though, our presidents have been like conductors stepping up to the podium of a well-trained and highly acclaimed orchestra. Their task is to help coordinate all the tremendously talented people who volunteer their time and energy with Sha'ar Zahav, so that all the different voices blend and harmonize.

There is still, though, something of the "vision thing" remaining, and I want to tell you something of my vision for the next two years. In some ways, our challenges mirror those faced by the country and by president Clinton. (Not to belabor the analogy, but my partner Nancy did suggest I go to the airport for a \$200 haircut after the installation service.) Financially, for example, the economy has of course affected us, too—not just in the rising cost of things, but also in its impact on our members. We will need to apply ourselves with renewed determination to our version of deficit reduction: continuing to look for concrete and systematic ways to control costs, and to limit our expansion to costs and programs we are sure we can afford.

On the level of our collective values and culture, we—like the country—face a continued challenge to grapple with issues of inclusiveness. Just as we have made great strides nationally, with the appointment of our own Robert Achtenberg, the increasing visibility of gays and lesbians, and a continued increase in the number of Jewish national leaders, our congregation has made great strides internally. Earlier years saw significant tensions between men and women in the congregation, and between parents and



Our new president: Tiela Chalmers.

PHOTO BY MICHAEL BETTINGER

non-parents. More recently, we have grappled with the challenges of welcoming nongay people, bisexuals and non-Jews. But although these issues are complicated and difficult, our values of inclusiveness, informed by our Jewish heritage and teachings, are clear. Exclusion is not a principle the leadership of this synagogue supports or condones. We don't always agree on how best to be inclusive, but we do agree on the underlying values. We can, and will, work to reach consensus on how to implement those values.

Now there are some challenges that I need in particular to ask for your help in achieving.

The first is personal. Although some of you may think of me as a ham (perhaps an inept description for a synagogue president), I am actually a shy person. I get nervous meeting new people, and in my nervousness I often forget a name the minute I hear it. Then I'm in a bind, since while I get up on the bimah at services

and remind people of my name pretty regularly, most members of the congregation don't do that. So please don't be insulted if I forget your name, and please bear with me.

Second, I want you to feel free to call me. If you have an idea for a program, or you wish something were different, or you want to know why it is the way it is, call me. My number is on the back page of the *Gaily Forward*. I want to hear from you.

Most importantly, though, I would like this to be a place of sweetness and enrichment and fun for all of you. In the nine years that I have been a member, my sense of community and family have been deepened by personal events like the naming ceremony for Tsipora Prochovnick and for our daughter Kailin, my friend Bill Schlichter's bar mitzvah and his memorial service, and my own wedding. I've been overwhelmed and moved by all of us on our feet at High Holy Days, singing the Avinu Malkeinu with so much hope and emotion, and by a quiet round sung as we gather for Friday night services. I've been struck by how much I learned about Judaism as a member of the Ritual Committee, and about planning for the future and facilitating meetings as a member of the Long-Range Planning Committee. And I've laughed so hard I almost cried working on the Purim play one year and watching Allan Gold and Rosalinda Del Moral interpreting Jewish history through the eyes of Carmen Miranda.

I want each one of you to have some overwhelming sense of sweetness, some rush of connection and warmth, some pride and enrichment, some hilarity in your life at Sha'ar Zahav. Is that the way it is now? That's wonderful; let's together find ways to keep that feeling. If you don't have that now, is there something you can do to make it happen? Is there something we can do? After all, you're probably not a member of Sha'ar Zahav because your parents made you, or because you were afraid of what your neighbors would think if you didn't join. Since you have chosen this community, make it a place of sweetness, enrichment and fun for yourself. Take a class, join a committee, come to services, go to a social event, celebrate your life cycles with us. Let us make sharing that feeling the primary challenge of these next two years: for me, for the other officers, the board, the committees, and for you.

July Va'ad Report

The July 12 meeting was the inaugural meeting for the new officers and members.

Rabbi Kahn pointed out that Jewish behavior is seen as a reflection of the sanctity of God. Acting with integrity, even in trivial matters, affirms God. Our leaders are seen as representing God and serve as a model for others.

The treasurer, Gary Sokol, reported that pledges received so far this year are slightly above the budget amount and dues received are slightly ahead of last year's figures. However, contributions to the general fund are significantly less this year. A shortfall in *pushke* contributions due to our discontinuation of passing the basket at services was addressed. It was proposed that there be more mention of *pushke* contributions in the weekly announcement sheets and the newsletter. Congregants might be encouraged to contribute the equivalent of their yearly basket contributions, e.g. \$52 or a multiple thereof. The discount coupon books have not been selling well. Suggestions to spur sales were entertained. On a more positive note, approximately \$3800 in income was realized by voiding outstanding checks more than a year old.

Howard Herman, our representative on the Jewish Community Relations Council, reported on their activities. The council has opposed the recently proposed Israel policy to deny immigration rights to individuals who are HIV-positive. An attempt is made to provide balance to media reports which are seen as being unfairly anti-Israel. The council advocates an attempt to counter the policy of "ethnic cleansing" in Bosnia. There is a consensus in opposition to proposals for a voucher system for private schools. Support is expressed for lifting the ban against gays in the military. The council is concerned about avoiding anti-Semitic overtones in the controversy about actions of the Anti-Defamation League. There was a discussion as to whether we should direct Howard to advocate a certain position in this latter matter. It was agreed that he will discuss the situation with the chair of the social action committee and consider making a proposal to the Va'ad at the next meeting.

Carolyn Pines, the membership chair, announced that two new membership applications were received. After ascer-

taining that all was in order, the members were unanimously accepted. The annual conundrum of last-minute requests for High Holiday tickets for new members was resolved with the following motion: An applicant for membership who completes an application, dues pledge form and pays one quarter of the annual dues by August 31, may receive High Holiday tickets, subject to availability.

Member Ron Lezell informed us about the activities of the American Reform Zionist Association (ARZA), an affiliate of the Union Of American Hebrew Congregations (UAHC), to which our congregation belongs. ARZA does much to advance the cause of liberal Judaism in Israel, as well as supports gay/lesbian rights. It was agreed that when initial dues notices are prepared, members will be invited to support ARZA with a voluntary contribution.

Rabbi Kahn reported that bids have been solicited for a much needed portable ark to house our Torahs. A motion was passed to allocate up to \$1000 for this purchase, subject to approval by the Rabbi, the fine arts committee and the ritual committee. The use of a *Yizkor* book for the High Holidays was proposed and will be discussed at the next meeting.

Our new president, Tiela Chalmers, welcomed the new Va'ad members and reminded us of the UAHC Biennial, to be held in San Francisco in October. All are encouraged to volunteer, which will let you in for free on the day you volunteer.

Bikkur Cholim

We Care

If you cannot attend High Holiday services because of illness or other disability, CSZ will bring the High Holidays to you! If you would welcome a High Holiday visit from members of the Bikkur Cholim Committee—including the sound of the Shofar and a piece of honey cake—please call the synagogue office by September 7. Throughout the year, if you are in the hospital or ill at home, or if you learn of another synagogue member who is, please inform the office so our Rabbi and/or Bikkur Cholim Committee can be in touch.

If you would like to participate in this mitzvah, the Bikkur Cholim Committee needs your volunteer help. Call chair David Shaber at 861-6932 to volunteer.

Condolences

To **Jane Sears**, on the death of her grandson Elija Birnbaum Stahl.

To **Tom Yazman**, on the death of his cousin Jason Suroff.

To **Melissa Levin**, on the death of her sister Jackie Shani.

To **Jeffrey Lilley**, on the death of his friend Tede Matthews.

To **Ed Lopatin**, and the congregation, on the death of David Custead.

To **Frank Yellin**, on the death of his friend Bunny Blake-Grey.

To **Ellen Peskin**, on the death of her mother Ruth Peskin.

To **David Weinstein**, on the death of his sister-in-law Jeanne Weinstein.

R E M I N D E R

Annual High Holidays Blood Drive

10 am–2 pm • Saturday, September 18

Irwin Memorial Blood Center

Turk and Masonic, San Francisco

Each year the Women's Chavurah coordinates the High Holidays blood drive, to build up the synagogue's account at the Irwin Memorial Blood Center. The account is available for use by all CSZ members, our families, and loved ones.

If you cannot donate blood, come and schmooze and drop off your favorite baked goods. It's sure to revive the most generous donor—or shmoozer. Call Susan (510/482-3740) to schedule your donation or volunteer to make a few phone calls.

August Va'ad Report

The August 9 Va'ad meeting opened with a *D'var Torah* led by Rabbi Kahn.

In the *D'var Torah*, we revisited *Reform Judaism, A Centenary Perspective*, which we had been studying earlier in the year. The particular section which we looked at dealt with Judaism's emphasis on action rather than creed. Reform Judaism calls for the recognition not only of ethical obligations, but of our duties involving other aspects of Jewish living. These would include lifelong study, religious observance, and the celebration of the major events of life. In this respect, Rabbi Kahn called for more members of the congregation to become involved in spiritual obligations and to understand that he encourages more membership involvement in these areas of activity.

Our financial discussion with treasurer Gary Sokol first touched upon the results of July's Advance. More members than ever attended, and some who wanted to go actually had to be turned away. Dues received year to date against 1993-1994 pledges are running ahead of this time last year. Gary noted that the sending of high holiday tickets to members is tied in with the obligation to have one's dues paid up.

Membership chair Carolyn Pines reported on mid-July's new member potluck. There was a modest turnout from the new members and a heavy turnout from "seasoned" synagogue members. The membership applications of two couples and two singles are pending. The Va'ad voted its approval of these individuals, pending a subsequent meeting and approval of the dues committee.

Next, the Va'ad turned its attention to an upcoming fall social event. On Sunday, November 14, there will be a reception in honor of Allan Gold and his just-completed presidency of CSZ. Proceeds from the reception will be used to fund the position of program director. The planning committee consists of Judy Schwartz, Ida Kuluk, Michael Zimmerman, and Mark Mackler. All members of CSZ should keep their eyes open for more information about this event.

Don Albert spoke to the Va'ad about an important video which is now in the planning stages. Currently, there is no educational video program which puts a "Jewish face" to the HIV/AIDS crisis. The Union of American Hebrew Congregations (UAHC) and The Central

Conference of American Rabbis (CCAR) have decided to do something about this. These organizations will be producing a 15-20 minute video which will attempt to educate Jewish audiences and serve as a catalyst for viewers to come to understand that Jews are both infected and affected by this disease. Don's proposal was that CSZ contribute \$500 from the adult education fund in memory of our members who have died from AIDS and AIDS-related illness. The Va'ad voted its unanimous approval.

Rabbi Kahn's report touched upon a number of areas of interest. He discussed several changes which would be made affecting *Yizkor* and *Shofar* services during the High Holidays. Also, since the facilitated discussions during the break at High Holiday services have proved to be very popular, the Rabbi is seeking ideas for new topics. Kadimah is looking for children to round out its classes, especially in grades K-1. Rabbi Kahn will hold an introduction to Judaism orientation meeting on Tuesday, October 5, at 7:30. Finally, the Rabbi expressed his pleasure that seven of our students were able to take advantage of incentive scholarships to attend Camp Swig.

Tiela Chalmers then proceeded to give her president's report which covered many diverse items. A letter from Betty Kalis regarding the joy of her recent bat mitzvah was distributed to the Va'ad. Tiela then updated us on Ron Wilmot's efforts on the renovations task force. For the High Holidays, Rena Frantz and Phil Charney will be working on child care. Ellie Cohen will be working on fundraising with Michael Zimmerman. Don Albert will be chairing the task force on the role of the non-Jew in the synagogue. The Magnes Museum in Berkeley has invited us to attend its upcoming *shtetl* exhibit. Previously, the June *Va'ad Report* had reported that the congregation had come into possession of some files relating to the Selznick Studios. The plan is for the Butterfield & Butterfield firm to auction the material in December. As a matter of clarification, it should have been made known at that time that the generous gift of the Selznick files had come from David Weinstein. The Va'ad voted to reserve Wildwood for the Advance weekend of July 16, 1993, and to sign a contract to that effect. The Va'ad voted to authorize the ritual committee

to spend down the remaining money and extend the duration of the original contract with Linda Hirschhorn, who had been providing music consultant services since September of 1992. Finally, Tiela outlined a problem which had arisen regarding the congregational seder. First, the Fort Mason Officers' Club has been well-received as a seder site. Second, the seder has traditionally been held on the second night. Third, in 1994 the second night of Passover will fall on a Sunday. The Officers' Club is normally closed on Sundays. The Officers' Club (perhaps because we're perfect guests?) would open especially for us, but for an additional charge of \$750. Tiela then pointed out that we currently have a balance of almost \$2000 in the seder subsidy suspense fund. Given this fact, the Va'ad voted to appropriate \$750 from that fund in order to ensure that we could utilize the Officers' Club on that Sunday evening next year.

Next, the Va'ad reviewed and discussed an article titled *Being A Good Trustee*. The article outlined the major assignments of a synagogue board. It discussed the importance of having a long-range plan, the necessity of understanding interrelationships of the Rabbi, office administrator and lay leadership, and what it is that makes synagogue trusteeship different from all other kinds of trusteeship.

Following a brief appearance by Kailin Hillary Chalmers Koch, the Va'ad sang *Oseh Shalom* and adjourned at 9:15 pm.

—Mark Mackler, Recorder

Gathering For HIV+ Members

CSZ members who are HIV-positive or PLWA/ARC are invited to an afternoon of discussion, prayer and fellowship with Rabbi Yoel Kahn. These periodic events are an opportunity to connect with others, share our concerns and draw support from the community. Lovers and partners are also invited. We will meet on Saturday afternoon, September 4, from 2 to 4 pm in the library at the synagogue. Please call David Couch in the office to RSVP; you need not give your name. If you have any questions, please call Rabbi Kahn.

High Holiday Thoughts

Go Towards Yourself

Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur are different from the other Jewish festivals. They do not relive our national history; they neither celebrate a collective victory nor mourn a collective disaster. They celebrate creation and accept mortality. They do not focus on the Jews as a group at all, but on other levels of organization: the universe and the individual.

The siddur speaks of the universe in the same language as the individual: *hayom harat olam*; this day was the world conceived, as a child is conceived in its mother's womb. *Yamim noraim*, the Days of Awe, are meant to inspire us with awe at all creation; they should also fill us with awe at our own lives, and with determination to do the best we can with life.

This year, unlike previous years, Congregation Sha'ar Zahav will read the traditional torah portions for both days of Rosh Hashanah. These readings show that our ancestors, too, confronted life as individuals. Each portion is a variation on the same themes: death and the escape from it; limits imposed and limits discovered; each person's hand in shaping her destiny; the clash and mingling of limits and wills, three adults and one child confront their own limits, collide with each other's wills, establish their own relationships with the God of their understanding.

The first day's story starts with Sarah, the skeptic, who never believed she could found a family in her old age. Now that she has a child, she gives him a name meant to remind people that she once had laughed at God's promises. She sees Hagar's son Ishmael as a threat to her child Isaac, and acts to protect her family without consulting God or anyone else. Despite or because of her attitude, the God of her understanding supports and protects her—but doesn't try to communicate with her.

Hagar is Sarah's handmaid and rival. Driven into the desert with her son, she expects to die of thirst. But this isn't her first time in the desert. She calls on the God who had appeared to her before; God appears again and saves her and Ishmael. God favors the uncommunicative Sarah, but speaks directly to

Hagar, who cares enough to ask. Each woman tries to establish herself through her family; each is helped in a different way, a way she helps create.

Abraham, both women's husband, has no control over any of this. Desperate to make peace between Sarah and Hagar, he protests to God, but has to accept the inevitable and banish Hagar. At the end of the first day's Torah reading, he is able to make peace with a local king; he can make peace where he is a party to the dispute. Sarah and Hagar teach him that he can't impose it from outside.

The second day's reading shows Isaac a few years later. The sheltered child, always overshadowed by his parents, is forced to face death at an early age. He learns the hard way that he can't trust his father.

Abraham also learns something more of his limits. He was ready to sacrifice Isaac; every great cause requires sacrifice, but Brahma's God demands self-sacrifice only. Abraham sends one son, Ishmael, to face death in the desert; he's willing to kill Isaac if need be. But it's not up to him whether they live or die. He doesn't control the children's destinies any more than the women's. Coming down from the mountain alone, he leaves Isaac for the first time in the boy's life, to make his own decision about what to do next.

God speaks to Abraham at the beginning of this story in the same words that first called Abraham and Sarah away from their homeland towards Canaan: *Lech-lecha*; literally "Go towards yourself." Sometimes our true selves can't flourish where we are; sometimes we can't even know our true selves in the place where we grew up. Many of us came to the Bay Area for just that reason.

The Days of Awe call us to make a shorter, but equally important, journey: away from our usual occupations, towards the wonder of our lives, the terror of mortality, the lessons we don't always have time to learn. It's a journey that nobody else can make for you—because nobody else can learn what you can.

Both days of Rosh Hashanah this year are weekdays—work days, for

those able to work. To attend services on one day or both, each of us will have to make a decision: to use up comp time; to lose a day's pay or a day of looking for work; to miss classes and make them up from somebody's notes; to use attendant hours and transportation vouchers. We on the ritual committee hope that you will each seriously consider giving up those two days to make a journey towards yourselves.

—Nina Wouk

Dennis Mitchell, Zichrono Livracha

Sha'ar Zahav member Dennis Mitchell passed away peacefully on April 6 after his courageous struggle with AIDS. Dennis had Jewish roots and Buddhist wings. He cultivated his Zen mind over the course of many years; but in the last fifteen months of his life, he profoundly recognized and reconnected with his Jewish soul.

Among Dennis' last words are the following: "My life has been wonderful. Perfect. Full of love and blessings. I hope I have been a true tool of God and that my love has guided me to do what is right. The ocean roars, the winds howl, beauty and nature is. There are no words. All of what is—just is. I feel blessed having come into this beautiful world. To be a part of it. To share, to give, to love, to experience. And when all is said and done, let only one thing be remembered about me: that I loved and was loved. For love never dies. Let the silence of my passing speak the truth of my being. For that I loved and was loved, I could ask for no more in this lifetime. For love is all there is, and words will never come close to the magic created by the power of love and the flight I will now go on. I leave in love on my journey of eternity."

—Remembrance from a loved one

Frank Hyman Remembered

A memorial plaque has been dedicated to the perpetual memory of Frank Hyman by the congregation.

Sukkot: What, Another Holiday Already?

The evening of September 29, four days after the end of Yom Kippur, Sukkot will begin: the third pilgrimage festival, the Feast of Booths, the harvest festival. Why, you may wonder, another harvest festival? We have Thanksgiving, or, if that's too imperialist, Halloween, which don't make us miss work or build anything. Besides, didn't we just have a Jewish harvest festival on Shavuot? And it's only a few days after Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. What could another holiday add to them?

In fact, Sukkot completes the new year holidays. Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur ask us about our relationships to each other, to ourselves, and to the God of our understanding. They ask eternal questions, common to all peoples. One thing they don't ask us is why, when we consider these other questions, we do it as Jews. Sukkot asks—and answers.

Sukkot is not only a harvest festival. It is also an exodus festival—Pesach, part two. Pesach celebrates the exodus, our birth as a people; it begins the countdown to Shavuot, the day we received our unique system of values, the Torah, at Mount Sinai. Sukkot commemorates the way we lived after leaving Egypt, wandering in the desert; it climaxes with Simchat Torah, the day we finish and begin the annual cycle of reading the Torah. On Pesach we regard ourselves as having come forth from slavery; on Shavuot we (even those who were never in Egypt) stand again at Sinai. On Sukkot traditional Jews live as our ancestors did in the desert, in temporary shelters; and on Simchat Torah, a post biblical holiday, we rejoice in the Torah's continuity and our own.

Both Pesach and Sukkot bring back the beginnings of Jewish history, and each leads up to the Torah.

The symbolism of Pesach is familiar to most American Jews; not so that of the sukkah, the temporary shelter. The sukkah has a complex meaning. It is a sign of divine protection, the sukkah of peace mentioned in the evening Hashkivenu prayer. It is a live-in horn of plenty, a place to celebrate abundance. It is also a symbol of insecurity. It must not be made too strong, nor with a solid roof. It reminds us not to completely trust any material shelter, nor to shut out the world. It reminds us of people who have no homes. The book of Ecclesiastes, which

is read during Sukkot, says to be generous with all; no one knows who will be in need next, and who will have enough to share. The sukkah is a symbol of both fear and joy.

When there was a temple in Jerusalem, Sukkot was the biggest holiday of the year. Every year the whole nation gathered there for a week of feasting. They lived in huts made of branches, the same kind of huts they built during the summer, when it was too hot to sleep indoors. Every seven years, during Sukkot, the entire Torah was read aloud. People called Sukkot "the Holiday," "the season of our joy."

Later, the Talmud declared that joy, beauty and relaxation were requirements. The sukkah had to be decorated, all the best furniture moved into it, guests invited. The Rabbis forbade anyone to eat in the sukkah if it rained, if the lamp blew out, or in any condition that would create resentment. They required rejoicing because the people had lost their country and needed their spirits lifted: the God of their understanding, who sheltered their ancestors in the desert, would shelter them. As Eliahu was said to visit each Jewish home on Pesach, every sukkah had symbolic guests, heroes of the Torah who were forced to leave their homes: Abraham, Jacob, King David.

Later, as repression, invasion and wandering became the lot of most Jews, the symbolism became more somber: no one could count on prosperity or security. God's protection was the only protection. People then believed that on Yom Kippur their fates were determined for the next year. According to one midrashic source, those who were fated to suffer exile could do it in an easy, temporary way by living for a week in the sukkah, and then return safely to their homes.

In all ages, the sukkah remains a reminder of homelessness, of always having to move on. What makes Sukkot a joyous festival? First, it celebrates a successful harvest, the necessary condition of another year of life; it reaches into the future. Second, it also reaches into the past. Sukkot reminds us that, despite the threats to life, we have survived as a people, and our way of life has survived. One reason is that our way of life is portable, as befits the descendants of strangers and exiles. Simchat Torah cli-

maxes the festival: with the Torah as our collective focus, we keep going.

Whether or not we think it divinely inspired, whether or not we take its commandments as binding on us, all who identify as Jews have reason to celebrate the Torah. We may not be able to explain why we are here at all, but we know why we are here as Jews: because our ancestors built a civilization based on the Torah. Since leaving Egypt, we have acquired, and lost, many things. The Torah alone has traveled and grown with us, branching into Talmud, midrash, halacha, kabbalah, and all branches of Judaism. It roots and justifies our existence as a people. Sukkot reminds us that we are a people, with a history, a heritage, and a future.

The meaning of Sukkot, for us as for our ancestors, is manifold. We may not celebrate in all the same ways, or for all the same reasons they did over the centuries, but we still have cause to celebrate. God's protection has brought us this far, in the form of the Torah that gives a center to our life as a people.

—Nina Wouk

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav

Gift Shop



Friday nights
7:30–8:05 pm

New Ad Deadline

Advertising Coordinator Transition

After five years of dedication to the *Jewish Gaily Forward*, Rick Wilson is stepping down as advertising coordinator. The Newsletter Committee deeply appreciates his sticking with it for so long and making the chair's job in par-

ticular so much easier. In his place, Barney Ugarte will now bring his brand of high energy and advertising expertise to this position. Among other things, he hopes to significantly increase ad revenue.

Beginning with the October issue, the *Forward* will have a new advertising deadline. It will be one week earlier than the copy deadline, i.e., the **first Monday** of each month. Copy will continue to be due by the second Monday of the month. All advertisers wishing to place a display ad should contact Barney directly at 386-2472. Those wishing to place a classified ad can continue to contact the office.

New Members

The Membership Committee is pleased to announce that our congregation gained the following new members this month. A warm welcome to the latest people to join our family:

John and Marjorie Bachert

Anne Elena Foster

Joshua Margulies and
Frank Sieple

Andrea Palash

We are grateful to see our congregation grow. It is up to all of us to help our new members feel welcome as they become active participants in our community.

Sunday, September 19

Women's Chavurah Bicycle Adventure

Come along on this scenic tour beside the piers of SF, over the Golden Gate Bridge, and on to Sausalito for lunch. We'll hop on the ferry to return to the City. It's a two-hour ride, with only a few uphill. Experience is not required. Beginners, as well as the more advanced, are sure to enjoy this outing. Call Sarah Haber for more info (621-1248).

Saturday, October 16

Women's Chavurah Hosts Filmmaker

The Women's Chavurah has invited San Francisco filmmaker and producer, Leslie Krongold to help us kick off the fall social season and bi-monthly schedule of havdalah celebrations. We'll meet at the home of Sarah Nathe and Susan Tubbesing, in Oakland. We will hold a brief havdalah service, followed by a potluck dinner and screening of Krongold's (now nearly completed) work-in-progress, *Shekhinah*, a documentary, focuses on five women rabbis and was shot in various U.S. locations and in Russia. Put this on your calendar now and don't miss your October *Forward* for potluck information and directions to Sarah and Susan's.

Bikkur Cholim

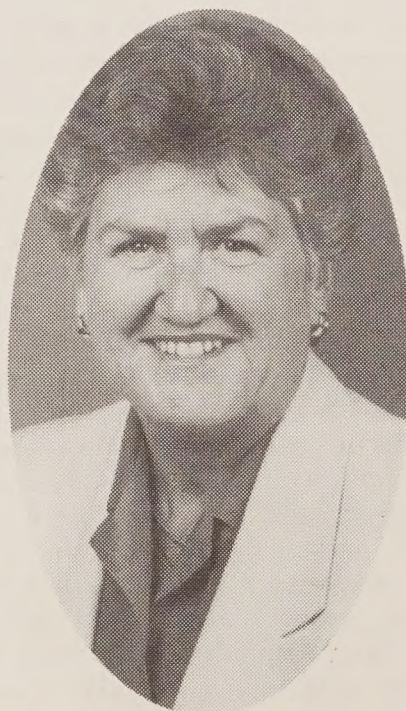
High Holiday Visits

On September 18 we will be making our holiday visits to two board and care homes in San Francisco to bring a little bit of the holidays to the Jewish residents there. Come join us! You'll find it to be a very rewarding experience. For more information contact Florence Nacamulli at 337-7678.

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Fall Adult Education Program

CSZ and Lehrhaus Judaica are co-sponsoring four courses this fall to be held at CSZ. **Unless otherwise indicated below, all meet on nine successive Tuesdays evenings beginning October 12,** and cost \$60 for the general public and \$40 for CSZ members. To register, call Lehrhaus at 510/845-6420.

Introduction to Prayerbook Hebrew

The essentials of biblical and prayerbook Hebrew. The goal of this course is basic competency in reading as well as understanding the root meaning of words in Hebrew texts found in weekly religious services. Prerequisites: reading knowledge of the *aleph-bet* and vowels. *Taught by Phyllis Mintzer, 7:15-8:30 pm.*

Introduction to Judaism

A survey of Jewish theology, sacred literature, prayer, holidays, and life cycles. A course for both Jews and non-Jews who want to enrich their basic

knowledge of Judaism, and for those considering conversion to Judaism. *Taught by Phyllis Mintzer, 8:30-9:45 pm.*

Midrash: Seeing With the Rabbis' Eyes

If the Torah is the epic story of the Jewish people, then midrash is the screenplay. Through the embellishment and elaboration of biblical stories, the ancient Rabbis reimagined Jewish history and creation itself: Isaac and Moses go to yeshiva, God makes multiple worlds before this one, and literally all the generations of Israel are present at Mt. Sinai. Using the newly translated English text of Chaim Nachman Bialik's classic *Sefer Ha-Aggadah*, this class will have both an English and a Hebrew section. The first hour will examine the background and explore the depths of the midrashic texts in English; the second hour will be devoted to reading the same texts in Hebrew. One can enroll in either the Hebrew, the English or both sessions. *Eight Sessions taught by Rabbi Kahn, 7:30-8:30 pm (English), 8:30-9:30 (Hebrew). Members free, non-members \$75 for both classes, \$45 for one class.*

Hebrew In One Day

Introduces the student to the *aleph-bet*, vowels, and essential pronunciation and sight-reading skills. Using games, songs and other techniques that make learning a pleasure, the class gives the student the ability to read the texts of the prayer book, Bible or simple modern Hebrew. A perfect beginning for studies that will lead to reading comprehension. *Taught by Anat Wolins of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Sunday, October 24 only, 10 am-4 pm. \$35 with lunch, \$30 without lunch.*

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

Birthdays

- | | |
|----|-------------------|
| 1 | Tom Rothgiesser |
| 1 | Liz Goodman |
| 2 | Jeff Friedman |
| 2 | Donna Rabinowitz |
| 2 | Bonnie Bishop |
| 2 | Simma Liberman |
| 3 | David Israels |
| 5 | Karren Shorofsky |
| 6 | Lee Ryan |
| 7 | Al Baum |
| 9 | Mark Weisman |
| 9 | Jeremy Hoffman |
| 11 | Larry Helman |
| 12 | Robin Leonard |
| 13 | Susan Foster |
| 17 | Rachel Mailman |
| 19 | Rob Tat |
| 20 | Elizabeth Katz |
| 21 | Janine Baer |
| 21 | Steven Cronenwalt |
| 21 | David Brickman |
| 21 | Richard Mehler |
| 22 | Roslyn Fuerman |
| 23 | Marianne Ades |
| 23 | Eileen Blumenthal |
| 24 | William Ambrunn |
| 25 | David Finacom |
| 27 | Sharma Gaponoff |
| 28 | Ellen Goldstein |
| 28 | Daphne Stuart |
| 29 | Simon Glinsky |
| 29 | Judith Wolfe |
| 30 | Joan Gelfand |

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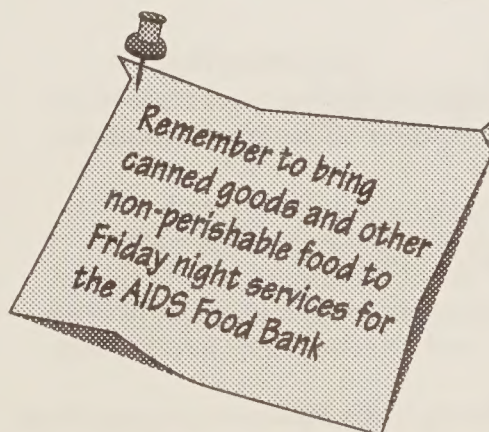
Selichot

The High Holiday season begins each year at Selichot, on the Saturday night before Rosh Hashanah. Sha'ar Zahav will observe Selichot on Saturday evening, September 11. The evening will begin with havdalah at 9 pm and include Torah study, a High Holiday music preview, food and drink, and a candlelight Selichot service. Join us for an inspiring and spiritual introduction to the High Holidays.

Pushke Pitch

As most of you know, we no longer pass the pushke baskets on Friday nights. Instead, we make a pitch and ask that you contribute what you can in one of the three pushke boxes located in various places around the synagogue.

Last year, we also started a new Sha'ar Zahav tradition: the annual pushke donation. Instead of giving \$1 each week, just send \$52 into the office and designate it as a pushke contribution. Even better, why not \$2 per week (\$104) or \$3 (\$156). Who knows, if everyone gave something at the beginning of the year, maybe we could eliminate a weekly pitch altogether?



CSZ Yom Kippur Food Drive

We will be collecting food for our annual Yom Kippur food drive to benefit Project Open Hand. Items most needed by the food bank are soy milk, canned tuna, plastic jars of peanut butter, and canned fruits and vegetables. Please bring non-perishable items to Kol Nidre service (Friday, September 24) or morning Yom Kippur service (Saturday, September 25). We will be able to accept food until noon on the 25th.

Contributions

Sha'ar Zahav welcomes all contributions of all sizes to mark any event and to add to any of our funds. Contributions will be acknowledged in the *Forward* unless otherwise requested.

Donations were made to Sha'ar Zahav's funds in the past months by the following contributors:

General Fund

We encourage donations to the General Fund in particular, because such donations can be used for any synagogue purpose.

Mark Mackler and Ingu Yun, in honor of Robert McCarroll
Ron Lezell, in honor of Robin Leonard and Lee Ryan's Kiddushin
Ida Kuluk and Susan Spott, in honor of Kailin Chalmers Koch
Allan Berenstein, in memory of Joe Ellison
Dr. and Mrs. Jerome Lowenstein, in memory of David Loebel
Steve Elman and Tom Holt, in honor of Robin Leonard and Lee Ryan's Kiddushin
Sherry and Burton Berenstein, in honor of their brother being named as one of the top 25 volunteers by the Points of Light Foundation
Allan Berenstein, in memory of Sadie Radetsky
Rabbi and Mrs. Julius Funk
Richard Goldwasser, in memory of Phillip Zelvin
David Stein and Alex Ingersoll, in honor of the birthday of Jerry Rosenstein
David Stein and Alex Ingersoll, in honor of the birth of Kailin Hillary Chalmers Koch
Misha Cohen, in memory of her mother, Jacqueline Cohen
Mrs. Ida Cooper, in memory of Albert Bryn Stern
Karen Strauss and Ruth Bornstein, in honor of Tiela Chalmers' installation as president
Perry Paker, in memory of Gussie Paker
David Stein and Alex Ingersoll, in honor of Allan Berenstein, for being named as one of the 25 outstanding volunteers by the Points of Light Foundation
David Weinstein, in memory of Jeanne Weinstein
Ron Lezell, in honor of Mary Sue

Philps and Dvorah Honigstein's anniversary

David Weinstein, in hopes for a speedy recovery for both Susan and John

Steve Elman and Tom Holt, in honor of the birth of Kailin Hillary Chalmers Koch, the kiddushin of Mark and Todd Taubman-Walker, and in appreciation of Allan Gold's service to CSZ

AIDS Fund

Barry Wendell

Don Albert, in honor of Allan Gold's work for the synagogue

Sharon and Len Silverman, in honor of Robin Leonard and Lee Ryan

Herbert and Cathleen Morawetz, in memory of David Loebel

Building Fund

Don Albert, in honor of Roberta Achtenberg's appointment to HUD

Children's Education Fund

Don Albert, in honor of the birth of Kailin Hillary Chalmers Koch

Don Albert, in honor of the birth of Zoe

Education Fund

Steve Greenberg, in gratitude to Jon Funk for his cantorial consultation

Library Fund

Gordon Osser, in memory of his father, Maurice William Osser, his mother, Jeannette Chudacoff Osser, and his sister, Isabel June Fleming

Betty Kalis Inclusive Liturgy Fund

The following have donated in honor of Betty Kalis' Bat Mitzvah:

Phil and Barbara Hodes and Family

Phyllis and George Mintzer

Gail Logan and Cindy Cantlon

Eli Weinstein

Donna Martin

Tova Green

Steve Greenberg

Ami Zusman

Sandra Lofchie

Shelley Spiro and Gabrielle Kassner

Gladys Vedros

Sharyn Saslafsky and Catherine

Dodd

Judy Schwartz and Carolyn Pines

Beverly Hewitt

Rose Katz

Ora Prochovnick and Rena Franz

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Annette Goldberg

Mr. and Mrs. Margaret and Harry

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Leonard Brill

Robin Leonard and Lee Ryan

Marsha Ralieg

Alex Ingersoll and David Stein

Mrs. Marion Leonard

Bob Gutterman and Paul Cohen

Sara Jane Anderson

Ellen Krosca and Janet Romine

Julia Bloomfield

Dana Vinicoff

Steve Elman and Tom Holt

Mike Rankin

Gene and Ina Winick

Marion Trentman

Allan Gold

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Robin Leonard and Lee Ryan, in honor of Rabbi Kahn

Don Albert, in honor of Betty Kalis' Bat Mitzvah

Betty Kalis, in appreciation of Rabbi Kahn

Nancy Sadlier, in honor of the brit of her son, Daniel Asher Sadlier

Shellee Cohen and Michael Landy, in appreciation of Rabbi Kahn

Stein-Chesir Music Fund

Paul Dickel, in honor of David Stein's birthday

Tova Green, in honor of Allan Gold's warmth and caring as president of CSZ

Torah Fund

Don Albert, in honor of the new officers and board

Mark Mackler and Ingu Yun, in honor of Allan Gold

Carolyn Pines and Judy Schwartz, in honor of Michelle Auerbach and David Brode's wedding

Mark Mackler and Ingu Yun, in honor of Mark's parents

Paul Cohen, in memory of Arthur Sparer, son of Rabbi Malcolm Sparer

Ida Kuluk and Susan Spott, in honor of Rabbi Kahn, Phil Charney, and Susan Unger

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Congregation Beth Israel Announces Sixth Annual Jewish Food Festival

Congregation Beth Israel's sixth annual Jewish food festival will take place Sunday, October 10, from 10 am to 3 pm, in the synagogue parking lot at 5716 Carmel Valley Road in Carmel.

This year's festival theme will be "Return to Anatevka," the imaginary 19th-century Russian Jewish village from the stories of Sholem Aleichem, made famous by the musical *Fiddler on the Roof*. The festival site will be decorated to resemble a village market day, with costumed food vendor's, wandering storytellers, and pushcart peddlers. Traditional klezmer music will fill the air, and more than a dozen booths will offer the bounty of Jewish cooking.

Visitors will enjoy traditional European foods as well as dishes that emerged from the immigrant experience in America: kugel, latkes, cholent, lox and bagels, knishes, cabbage borscht, matzoh ball soup, rugelach, blintzes, mandelbrot, corned beef and pastrami sandwiches, egg creams, and more. Picnic seating will be available, and all foods can be packaged for take-out.

The festival will also feature a children's play area, Israeli dancing, and

tours of the synagogue, including significant works of art and special table settings for the Jewish holidays.

Admission will be \$2 for adults and \$1 for teenagers (13-18 years) and senior citizens 65 years and over. Children 12 years and under will be admitted free. Food and gift items are purchased separately at the festival booths. All proceeds will benefit Congregation Beth Israel.

For ease and safety, visitors are urged to park at nearby Carmel Middle School and take the frequent shuttles to the festival. Free tickets for door prizes are given out on the shuttle bus.

For further information call Congregation Beth Israel (408/624-2015), or Marsha Kelly (408/624-1604).

Introduction to Judaism

Would you like to learn more about Judaism? Interested in exploring conversion? Aren't sure what is required? Are you curious about what it means to become a Jew-by-Choice?

Answers to all these questions will be available at an "Introduction to Judaism/Choosing Judaism" open house on Tuesday, October 7 at 7:30 pm at the synagogue. Rabbi Yoel Kahn and several resource people will discuss the meaning and process of conversion, the "Introduction to Judaism" program at CSZ and related issues. This program is open to the community, regardless of prior background, affiliation or study. If you have friends who have expressed an interest in exploring Judaism bring them as your guests! Please call David Couch in the office to reserve a place if you plan to attend.

The Jewish Gaily Forward is published by Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 220 Danvers at Caselli, San Francisco, California 94114, 861-6932. Permission to reproduce material is freely given, and credit would be appreciated.

Members of the congregation receive the *Forward*. For a donation of \$18/year, non-members will receive the *Forward*.

Members of the Newsletter Committee

Chair: Lane Schickler (255-9679)

Editing/Proofreading/Layout: Joe Hample, Judy Heiman, Richard Inlander, Betty Kalis, Rose Katz, Robin Leonard, Martha Moon, Carolyn Pines, and Ivan Vincente

Photography: Michael Bettinger and David Weinstein

Advertising: Barney Ugarte

Distribution: Liz Goodman (coordinator), Sam Thal, David Weinstein and Eli Weinstein

Typesetting: David Lester, Mouse Type Inc.

Printing: Lou Greene

Display Ads are \$15 per column inch for non-members and \$10 per column inch for members, with discounts available for size and frequency. Ads should be camera ready; any ads that require typesetting, camera and/or artwork will be subject to a one-time production charge. Call Barney Ugarte (386-2472).

Classified Ads are \$5 for up to 20 words, plus \$1 for each 10 additional words. No personals accepted. Payment must accompany ad and should be sent to Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 220 Danvers at Caselli, San Francisco, California 94114, marked attention *Forward* advertising.

The *Forward* reserves the right to reject any ad for reasons of taste.

Kever Avot

Annual Cemetery Visit

This year's annual visit to the Sha'ar Zahav section of Hills of Eternity Cemetery in Colma is scheduled for Sunday, September 19 at 10 am. Our visit continues the Jewish tradition of visiting the graves of relatives and loved ones during the High Holiday season. Our congregational visit allows all members and friends to honor this custom by visiting the graves of our deceased members.

In addition to visiting the graves of members who are buried in our cemetery, we remember with brief readings and prayers all of our members, relatives and friends who have died.

Please contact Richard Inlander at 821-4134 if you plan to attend, as we provide a light breakfast at the close of the visit. He can also provide you with directions to Hills of Eternity.

Oneg Sponsors

These generous people sponsored recent onegs:

- 8/6 **Barbara and Allan Koch**, celebrating the birth of their first grandchild Kailin Hillary Chalmers Koch
- 8/13 **Ellie Cohen**, in honor of her parents' visit

Dr. Diane Sabin

CHIROPRACTOR

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Naches

To **Mike Rankin**, who will be on the executive committee of the UAHC Commission on Social Action and has been named chair of the commission's Domestic Issues Task Force on Social Action.

To **Oren Postrel**, a friend of the congregation, ordained as a rabbi by Hebrew Union College—Jewish Institute of Religion in New York in June. He has been appointed the assistant rabbi at the Liberal Synagogue in Paris.

To **Tom Rothgeisser**, for receiving the Allstate Quality Agent Award for Outstanding Customer Service.

We'd like to share your joyous moments with everyone. Please write, fax or phone in your naches or those of other members of the congregation so we can include them here.

Classified

LOOKING FOR A ROOMMATE? GJM, 44, bright, funny, warm, neat, quiet, responsible, considerate, honest, NS, ND, seeks living situation with own bedroom and bathroom. Beautiful view a plus. Moving back to SF in September. Call Lenny Giteck at 602/296-5008; or leave message at 415/543-6833.

ROOM TO RENT. Rental to share in house near SF State. \$350/month and 1/3 utilities. Available September 2. Call Janis 587-2468.

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Anniversaries

- 1 Jeffrey Rubin & Frank Bush
- 8 Claudia Bernard & Howard Herman
- 13 Sara Felder & Devra Noily
- 13 Nancy Meyer & Marilyn O'Keefe
- 15 Jerome Hipps & Sanford Friedman
- 23 Marion Trentman & Betty Kalis
- 26 Janet Seldon & Shari Cohen
- 29 Julie Moed & Shelley Eisenman
- 30 Pam Erwin & Susan Unger
- 30 Blanche Blachman & Adrienne Forshay

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Synagogue Information

Rabbi Yoel Kahn (861-6932)

Officers:

President, Tiela Chalmers (431-4312)
Administrative Vice President,
 David Stein
Program Vice President,
 Susan Unger
Treasurer, Gary Sokol
Recorder, Mark Mackler

Va'ad (Board) Members:

Phil Chamey
 Daniel Chesir
 Ida Kuluk
 Ron Lezell
 Carolyn Pines
 Ora Prochovnick
 Nathan Robinson
 Lane Schickler
 Susan Tubbesing

Office Personnel:

Administrator, Mark Pressler

Committee Chairs:

Archivist, Bill Ashley-Dobbin and Bill Goldstein
Bequests and Donations, Richard Inlander
Bikkur Cholim, David Shaber
Brotherhood, Phil Chamey
Building, Ellen Gierson
Bylaws, Edward Pollock
Cemetery, Richard Inlander
Children's Chavurah, Audrey Adelson & Joan Lefkowitz
Cookbook Project, Robin Leonard
Dues, Lisa Katz and Roz Fuerman
Education, open
Endowment Fund, Richard Inlander

Finance, Brett Trueman
Fine Arts, Alice Prussin
Fundraising, Michael Zimmerman and Ellie Cohen
Gift Shop, Jeff Rubin
Israel Chavurah, Ron Lezell
Leadership Development, Irene Ogus
Long-Range Planning, Allan Gold
Membership, Carolyn Pines
Newsletter, Lane Schickler (255-9679)
Oneg, Debbi Jacobs-Levine
Past Presidents Council, Don Albert
Personnel, David Stein
Public Relations, Sharyn Saslasky
Religious School, Trudi Hauptman
Ritual, Frank Yellin
Social Action, Stan Kern
Social Program, by committee
Volunteer Coordinator, Robin Leonard
Women's Chavurah, Susan Tubbesing

Members wishing to contact any Va'ad member or committee chair are invited to obtain his or her number from the synagogue office.

Office Hours: Monday–Friday from 9 am to 12:30 pm and 2 pm to 4:30 pm. Please call the synagogue office at 861-6932.

Emergency Number: In an emergency, the congregation can be contacted outside of office hours by calling 861-6938.

Bikkur Cholim: If you or a friend who is a member of Sha'ar Zahav are ill in the hospital or at home, and would like to have the rabbi or a member of the Bikkur Cholim Committee call or visit, please notify the synagogue office.

Member of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations (Mike Rankin, Robin Leonard, Allyce Kimerling, Liaisons) and of the World Congress of Gay and Lesbian Jewish Organizations (Marc Mencher, Liaison).

Services are held every Friday evening beginning at 8:15 pm (except as noted), with an Oneg Shabbat following services. Services are generally held on the second Saturday of each month at 10:30 am—check calendar for each month.

Gift Shop Hours: Fridays, 7:30–8:05 pm.

Library Hours: Open during office hours, and 30 minutes before and after Friday night services.

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav (Congregation of the Golden Gate) is located in the Upper Market District of San Francisco at 220 Danvers at Caselli, which is one block south of the intersection of 18th and Market streets. By public transport, take MUNI bus 33 Stanyan to 18th and Danvers and walk one block south on Danvers to Caselli.

Yizkor Elohim

We mourn the death of our member:

David Custead

July 7, 1993

SEPTEMBER

אלול-תשרי

1 Wednesday
15 Elul

2 Thursday
16 Elul

3 Friday
17 Elul
• 8:15 pm, Shabbat Service

4 Saturday
18 Elul
• 2 pm, Gathering for HIV+ members

5 Sunday
19 Elul

6 Monday
20 Elul
Labor Day
Office Closed

7 Tuesday
21 Elul
• 6 pm, Healing Service
• 7-9 pm, Ensemble Rehearsal

8 Wednesday
22 Elul

9 Thursday
23 Elul
• 7 pm, Children's Education Committee meeting

For High Holidays service schedule, see front page

10 Friday
24 Elul
• 8:15 pm, Shabbat Service

11 Saturday
25 Elul
• 9 am, Bar/Bat Mitzvah planning meeting
• 9 am, Kadimah

12 Sunday
26 Elul

13 Monday
27 Elul
• 6:30 pm, Va'ad Meeting

14 Tuesday
28 Elul
• 7 pm, Newsletter editing

15 Wednesday
29 Elul
Erev Rosh Hashanah

16 Thursday
1 Tishri
Rosh Hashanah
Office Closed

17 Friday
2 Tishri
Rosh Hashanah
Office Closed
• 8:15 pm, Shabbat Service

Note: Gray areas indicate religious services.

18 Saturday
3 Tishri
• Bikkur Cholim nursing home visits
• 9 am, Kadimah
• 10 am-2 pm, Annual Blood Drive

19 Sunday
4 Tishri
• 9 am, Women's Chavurah bicycle adventure
• 10 am, Annual congregational cemetery visit

20 Monday
5 Tishri
• 6 pm, Healing service
• 7 pm, Newsletter proofing/layout

21 Tuesday
6 Tishri

22 Wednesday
7 Tishri

23 Thursday
8 Tishri
• 6:30 pm, Ritual Committee meeting
• 7-9 pm, Ensemble Rehearsal

24 Friday
9 Tishri
Yom Kippur
Kol Nidre

25 Saturday
10 Tishri
Yom Kippur

26 Sunday
11 Tishri

27 Monday
12 Tishri

28 Tuesday
13 Tishri

29 Wednesday
14 Tishri
Erev Sukkot

30 Thursday
15 Tishri
Sukkot
Office Closed
• 7 pm, Newsletter distribution

1 Friday, October 1
16 Tishri
• 8:15pm, Shabbat Service

2 Saturday, October 2
17 Tishri
• 10:30 am, Sukkot/Shabbat Service in Sukkah, see front page

3 Sunday, October 3
18 Tishri
• Sukkah building and celebration, see front page

OCTOBER FORWARD DEADLINES

FOR ADVERTISING MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

To place a display ad, call Barney Ugarte (386-2472).

To place a classified ad, call the office.

FOR ARTICLES MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

No late submissions will be published without a deadline extension arranged in advance with the newsletter chair. Any CSZ member may submit a typed, double-spaced article by mail or fax (861-6081) to CSZ, Attn: Gaily Forward.

East Bay Services

- 9/17 Ed Tanovitz's, 1612 E. 38th St., Oakland, 510/482-4825
- 10/15 Judy Schwartz & Carolyn Pines', 2821 55th Ave., Oakland, 510/532-9661
- 11/19 Susan Tubbesing's, 3433 Brunell Dr., Oakland, 510/482-3740
- 12/17 Claudia Bernard & Howard Herman's, 644 Fairmont, Oakland, 510/658-0123